

Overseas Press Club Bulletin

VOL. 37, NO. 15
SEPTEMBER 1, 1982

52 East 41 Street
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CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

Wed. Sept. 1 — LOBBY EXHIBIT
color photographs of the Irish landscape by author-photographer Margaret McCarthy.

Tues. Sept. 7 — 5:30 pm — Shop Talk with Andrew Nagorski, Newsweek correspondent ousted by Russia. Members free, guests \$3.

Wed. Sept. 8 — 4:30-8:30 pm — HAPPY HOUR resumes on Wednesdays - hors d'oeuvres free, drinks only \$2.25. Come and bring a guest!

Mon. Sept. 20 — noon — Shop Talk with James Wieghart, editor, *N.Y. Daily News*, on the future of the News and of daily papers generally over the U.S. Cocktails and lunch, \$16 for members, \$18 for guests.

RESERVATIONS A MUST for all OPC events. Cancellations MUST be made 24 hours before the event, or charges are billed. Call Mary Novick, OPC office, 679-9650.

July 4th a Cracker For Hong Kong Press

By Howard L. Kany

HONG KONG — For the Fourth Estate, the Fourth of July week-end here was exciting enough — even without American fireworks.

Twelve journalists were attacked, a telephone caller threatened to "chop" certain newsmen, three reporters were injured on the job and one was arrested as a robber.

In the end, the public relations director of Hong Kong police, Ted Taylor, told victims that when danger is foreseen and a request made, police would escort newsmen on future assignments.

The trouble began the evening of July 2, when 10 newspaper reporters were attacked while covering Commercial Crime Bureau detective raids at three offices of an automotive parts firm being investigated for fraud and deception. The newsmen escaped unharmed.

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Two Hot Shoptalks Open Our Fall Season



James Wieghart

Working to Keep The News Alive

James G. Wieghart, the new editor of the *New York Daily News*, will be the guest speaker at a special OPC "Shoptalk" luncheon on Monday, September 20.

Wieghart, who has been deeply involved in the dynamic planning and programs to revivify America's largest newspaper, will provide details of the blueprint and discuss the future of the News in particular and the prospects for other newspapers across the country in general.

Jim Wieghart brings a wealth of newspaper experience to the OPC.

As chief of the Washington Bureau of the *Daily News* for six years beginning in 1975, he headed the newspaper's coverage of the Watergate scandal, the impeachment proceedings against Richard Nixon, and Nixon's resignation. He directed the newspaper's coverage of national affairs through the Ford and Carter administrations and wrote a three-times-a-week column on politics, urban problems, national security and foreign policy.

Wieghart covered trips abroad with Presidents Nixon, Ford and Carter, including the signing of the SALT-2 treaty in Vienna and Ford's 1975 trip to China.

(Continued on page 4)



Andrew Nagorski

On Being Kicked Out of Russia

Andrew Nagorski, the *Newsweek* correspondent expelled from the Soviet Union last month, will speak before the OPC on Sept. 7, the Program Committee announced.

Nagorski accepted an OPC invitation within days after his expulsion was announced Aug. 2, while he and his family were preparing to leave Moscow after a 14-month tour.

The 35-year-old *Newsweek* bureau chief was accused by the Soviets of misrepresenting himself while trying to gather news in the Soviet provinces. Nagorski, who speaks fluent Russian, denied the charges and suggested that the real reason for his expulsion was Soviet displeasure with his stories about the state of the country.

In retaliation for the Nagorski expulsion, the U.S. government expelled from this country one of *Izvestia's* chief correspondents, Melor Sturua.

(Continued on page 4)

Nagorski will speak at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 7, in the Bogart Room. Make reservations now with Mary Novick at the OPC office (679-9650). members, free; guests, \$3.

Letters

A recent edition reviewed the selection of speakers at our Annual Awards Dinner which appeared to be in need of correction and amplification.

Anyone who, over the past decades, has served on the dinner committee is familiar with the annual struggle to obtain an exciting and audience-appealing speaker for the annual event. There are, of course, certain policy and fiduciary considerations that play an important role and which apparently have not been taken into consideration.

1. OPC is an organization originally founded by foreign correspondents who largely devote their efforts to the coverage of foreign affairs. This is to some extent still the case today.

2. OPC is known as an organization composed of newspaper men and women whose main interest is largely in this area.

3. We are not financial writers; we are not drama critics nor cooking experts, therefore, it is logical that we select a speaker whose main identification in the pursuit of his activities is in the domain of international political affairs.

To be specific, however, an effort is made to attract other speakers and the records show that:

1. Mr. Waldheim, at that time Secretary General of the UN, was approached at the time of the hostage crisis and turned us down. We then contacted the new Secretary General, Javier Perez de Cuellar, who had just been elected, and invited him to be our speaker that year. He accepted graciously, but asked for some later date since he felt he needed more time to familiarize himself with his new job.

2. We approached Ambassador Kenneth Taylor, the hero of the hostage crisis who graciously accepted.

3. I personally approached the Ambassador of China at the UN who accepted the invitation but about a month later was recalled to Peking.

4. We approached Solzhenitsyn who turned us down. We approached Aghstein, publisher of *Der Spiegel* who declined.

5. At one of our luncheon committee meetings, we discussed whether we should invite the president or chairman of the two largest banks in the U.S. (one at a time, of course). It was their unanimous consensus not to extend invitations, as the Board unanimously agreed they were not "box office."

There is, of course, another side in the decision-making process concerning a speaker for our annual dinner, a major financial undertaking which involved thousands of dollars. There are hotel guarantees, the printing of invitations, of tickets, menus, mailing expenses, and a host of additional financial commitments, all of which require a careful evaluation of the speaker's potential to attract a crowd suffi-

ciently large enough to prevent a financial loss. I am sure that the membership at large is aware and familiar with this problem.

Henry Gellermann

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Just want to let a few old friends know that I'm still going strong but not kicking as high as I used to. I celebrated my 80th birthday two months ago with a big party on a boat-restaurant in St. Louis on the Mississippi. I've joined the Press Club of St. Louis and that club celebrated my birthday with me.

For ten years I have edited a weekly newsletter at the Harry S. Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital here in Columbia. It's called *The Vet Gazette*. During those ten years I've accumulated more than 5000 hours of volunteer work at the hospital.

I've been a member of OPC for 42 years and would like to hear from **Irene Kuhn, Doris Thurston MacCauley** and others who might still recall me.

— **Irene S. Taylor**

211 Dorsey St.
Columbia, Mo. 65201

TOKYO — The literary world recently suffered the loss of four well-known members. Takeshi Saito, Japan's oldest authority on English literature and a member of the Japan Academy, was killed at the age of 95 by his deranged grandson. Saito was an expert on Shakespeare and Keats, among others. Charles S. Terry, the American translator of *Musashi*, died of cancer. He had translated many books on Japanese history, art and architecture. He was one of the few foreign scholars recently fluent in Japanese. Yasaburo Ikeda, an authority on Japanese literature, died in July. The president of the National Diet Library, Masaharu Ueki, head of the largest library in Japan, also died in July.

— **Masahiro Watanabe**

TEL AVIV — Events move so quickly that it is best to dateline this note. This is written in late July and offers a journalistic sidelight to the Israeli-PLO conflict.

Jay Bushinsky is covering it in every medium — press, radio and TV — the *Chicago Sun Times*, Westinghouse and CNN, respectively. He commutes to the war zone every day from his home here. He discovered that if he stayed overnight in Beirut he lost contact with his Israeli office. There is no direct connection and calls had to be relayed via the US, a time consuming process.

Foreign correspondents stayed at the Alexandre hotel in West Beirut

and the Commodore Hotel in the eastern sector. Crossovers were through enemy lines. All trips into Lebanon from Israel required a military escort.

The local contingent of 200 correspondents jumped to 700 who worked out of Kibbutz guest houses along the border. Most came from the US, South America and the Far East. None from Africa or the Russian bloc. New York's *Rolling Stone* sent a reporter and photographer, Peter Hellman and Annie Leibowitz.

— **Max Gendel**

ROME — All of us, reporters, historians or whatever, share in some degree a sense of concern at the decline of the UN as a democratic and humanitarian institution. We may hope that one day something better will take its place. Meanwhile, it may be our lot to record its decline as faithfully and as honestly as we can. And we may do this better if we exchange our writings, as some of us are already doing. Thus, if you send me clippings of your work, I shall do my best (within my limited means) to share them with other persons whose hope for reform is grounded on a tenacity for the facts.

— **Raymond Lloyd**

(Mr. Lloyd, a former director of a department of the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization — FAO — now publishes *Women & Men at 10 Piazza Albania, 00153 Rome, Italy.*)

The Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan in June elected as its new president Karel G. Van Wolferen of the Netherlands Radio Corporation (N.R.C.) Handelsblad.

Other officers elected to one-year terms in the Tokyo-based club: Richard H. Pyle, AP, first vice president; Urban C. Lehner, *Wall Street Journal*, second vice president; Robert C. Neff, *McGraw-Hill World News*, secretary; Hamish McDonald, Sydney, Australia, *Morning Herald*, treasurer.

Members of the Foreign Correspondents Club in Hong Kong elected free-lance photographer Hubert (Hugh) Van Es as its president for a year.

Dutch-born Van Es, who has worked in Southeast Asia for several years, took office just as the club was preparing to move from Sutherland House, with its spectacular view of the Peak and the Harbor, to a viewless pre-World War II building on Ice House Street in the center of the colony's business district.

Escalating rents forced the move.

— **Al Kaff**

De Rochemont, Who Marched With Time Newspapers Doing OK



Richard de Rochemont, who produced award-winning newsreels and documentaries as head of "The March of Time" and as an independent died August 4 in Flemington, N.J., where he lived. He was 78. He had been a member of the OPC for over 40 years.

Although Mr. de Rochemont started his career as a newspaper reporter in Boston and in New York, he switched in 1930 to the then new medium of news films, becoming foreign editor of Fox-Movietone Films in 1930, working in Paris until he joined "The March of Time" in

1934. In 1943 he succeeded his brother, Louis, as executive producer and remained until 1951 when "The March of Time" was discontinued.

For "The March of Time" production of "A Chance to Live," about Boys Town in Italy, he won an Academy Award. He also won awards from France, including the Legion of Honor. He also produced "The Story of the Vatican" for Time, the first film ever sanctioned about the Papal state.

After a brief tenure as a VP with the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, he established his own film-producing firm, Vavin, making films for clients like the State Department and the Ford Foundation.

Mr. de Rochemont, descendant of a French Huguenot family, was born in Chelsea, Mass., Dec. 13, 1903. He graduated from Harvard in 1928. Before getting into films, he worked for the *Boston Advertiser* and the *New York Sun*. He was author and co-author of several books on cooking and eating. He was president of France Forever, an association of Americans for a free France, and vice-president of the French-American Club.

Surviving is his wife, the former Jane Louise Meyerhoff.

HONG KONG (Continued from page 1)

The next evening, four of the newsmen, walking past the attack scene, saw a man they said had been involved. When they asked him to go with them to the police, he banged on an auto with his umbrella, whereupon 20 men with wooden clubs and sticks appeared. The group reportedly assaulted the newsmen, all but one of whom fled. One was bruised on face and body. Two other reporters, rushing up to have a look, were also hurt when pushed onto the pavement.

During the commotion, cries of "robbery" were heard. A policeman handcuffed and arrested the first reporter injured, Lee Chan-yui, of the *Hong Kong Times*. He was bleeding from the face and happened to be holding a purse. Police said he had been identified as a robber, but they soon released him.

Both the *Times* and the *Tin Tin Daily News* were warned by telephone not to send reporters back to the scene of the raids. One threat was to "Chop" them.

On the Fourth of July, 54 journalists went en masse to the local police station to ask protection for a return to the raid scene. The police agreed to

comply if newsmen gave their names, addresses and telephone numbers. They refused, saying information leaks might cause reprisals.

Later, police questioned and released 34 people. No charges were filed. The Hong Kong Journalists Association chairman, David Wong, said police were "dragging their feet." The association passed several resolutions asking speedy police probing. It is also seeking meetings with Secretaries for Home Affairs and for Security, to define rights of reporters at work.

(Howard Kany and his wife, Rita, stopped over in Hong Kong en route to a 3-month PR assignment for the International Executive Service Corps in Jakarta, Indonesia.)

MISSING from the August *Bulletin* was this note of thanks to **George Krinsky** for his masterful editing of the Middle East Shoptalk to a length the *Bulletin* could accommodate. And identifying **Takashi Oka**, *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent just elected chairman of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Beijing, as an OPC member.

In these days when gloom and doom about newspapers seems to depress us all, some cheering words from Consultant Clarence W. Harding's August newsletter on newspapers:

"Today there are 1700 daily newspapers published in more than 1550 U.S. cities. Although 12 daily newspapers have suspended publication during the past two years, 25 have been started. Daily circulation is nearly 62 million. It has risen in all but eight of the 37 years since 1945. Sunday circulation is at an all-time high of 55 million and still growing.

New Applications

ACTIVE RESIDENT

James G. Wiegart, Editor, N.Y. Daily News
Sponsors: *David J. Oestreicher, James C. Hanchett*

ASSOCIATE RESIDENT

Frank Brady, Prof. of Journalism, St. John's University
Sponsors: *Henry Gellermann, Charles Brophy*
Sarah Bartlett, Reporter, Fortune Magazine
Sponsors: *Roy Rowan, Patricia Langan*
Lee J. Maltenfort, free lance writer
Sponsors: *Sol Zatt, Harry C. Levin*

ASSOCIATE NONRESIDENT

Dolli Holland Leoni, Columnist, Rome Daily American
Sponsors: *Henry Gellermann, Charles Brophy*

Virginia Mintz, Acct. Executive/Media Director, John Adams Assoc.
Sponsors: *John Adams, Martin Gershen*

AFFILIATE

Michael DeNike, Self-employed artist/writer
Sponsors: *Milli Janz, Charles Brophy*

New Members

ACTIVE OVERSEAS

James S. Maceda

ASSOCIATE NONRESIDENT

Richard L. Escobar



OPC BULLETIN

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Irvin S. Taubkin, Editor; Helen Alpert, Rosalind Moore, Rosalind Massow, Charles J. Schreiber, Lawrence Stessin, Associate Editors.

Teaching Journalism Around the World

PARIS — Former OPC President **John Wilhelm**, now retired as dean emeritus from Ohio University, recently completed a four month trip, with wife Peggy, giving lectures on journalism in Hawaii (East-West Center and University of Hawaii for **John Luter**) and then three months in Malaysia running a seminar on foreign correspondence for Southeast Asian journalists at Mara Institute of Technology in Kuala Lumpur.

The foreign correspondent course was attended by some of the top journalists in Malaysia, as well as by students from the National University, Kebangsaan Malaysia and Mara Institute. One objective is to train foreign correspondents for the new regional news agency, ANN (Asian Pacific News agency).

Two of Wilhelm's former students from his foreign correspondence course at Ohio, **William Branigan**, now Southeast Asia bureau chief for the *Washington Post*, and Raphael Pura, staff correspondent for the *Asian Wall Street Journal*, also met with Wilhelm, as did Peter Hann, McGraw-Hill bureau chief in Singapore.

John and Peggy returned home via Greece where they met with veteran correspondent and writer, Alec Kitroeff, and then to Normandy Beach for the anniversary of D-day ceremonies, where Nancy Reagan laid a wreath. The Wilhelms were back in Athens, Ohio, for the national convention of the Association for Education in Journalism at Ohio University.

Elmer W. Lower, who has been a journalism professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia for several years now, will serve the next year as its dean. He will serve while the school seeks a permanent dean. Lower was for many years in New York as president of ABC News.

* * *

OPC'er **Gunther Less**, just back from visits to Manila, Hong Kong and Tokyo, looked at the calendar and discovered that he has been doing his "Journey to Adventure" television series for 28 years. That, he says, makes it the longest-running syndicated travel show on TV. It is now seen all the way from Puerto Rico to Hawaii, and in New York on WNBC-TV.

* * *

Low Jinks, High Jinks In Tower Suites

A funny thing happened to **James Baar's** comic novel "The Great Free Enterprise Gambit" on its way to this review. Published in April 1980 by Houghton Mifflin and sent to the *Bulletin* for review, it got lost somewhere among our stacks and files and has just now turned up. A happy turn-up it was. Because this is one of the funniest books you'll want to read and laugh with.

Actually, this farcical novel is funnier today than it was two years ago. It is a story of high jinks in our multi-national corporations involving the government from the presidency down, the Near East, the Mid-East, the Arabs, etc., et al. You would have laughed about it all two years ago. But considering what is happening today among our multi-nationals, you will roar and roll over laughing about it even more now.

Jim Baar is the guy to write this story, too. He has been a UPI correspondent and editor, an editor of *Missiles & Rockets Magazine*, a co-author of several books on spacecraft and missiles, manager of GE's European marketing communications, president of International Marketing Consultants and is now president of the PR firm of Creamer, Dickson, Basford, New England.

Sorry we failed to alert you to this when it came out . . . but it's never too late to enjoy a good laugh. So enjoy!

MEET YOUR FRIENDS AT THE OPC

Overseas Press Club of America, Inc.
52 East 41st Street
New York, N.Y. 10017

FIRST CLASS

NAGORSKI

(Continued from page 1)

Nagorski is the recipient of two OPC awards. In 1975, he was cited for a *Newsweek* cover story, "Black Africa Moves South." In 1979, he was cited for Best Business Reporting from Abroad for a cover story entitled "Japan versus the World."

He joined the news magazine in 1973 as an associate editor for *Newsweek International*, and a year later regional editor for Asia, based in Hong Kong. From there, he was named Hong Kong bureau chief. He was assigned to Moscow in June, 1981.

Born in Edinburgh, Nagorski was educated abroad while his father served in the U.S. foreign service. He is an Amherst graduate and a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

WIEGHART

(Continued from page 1)

Wieghart moved to New York last year and became executive editor of the *News*; he was named editor last May. Before joining the *News* in 1969 as Pentagon correspondent in the Washington Bureau, Wieghart was the Washington Bureau chief of the *Milwaukee Sentinel*. Previously, he had been an award-winning investigative reporter for the *Journal* and *Sentinel* in Milwaukee.

— David J. Oestreicher

Among those leaving *The Daily News* staff in their buy-out plan to cut staff to help the paper stay in business is **Pat Doyle**, New York's most celebrated crime reporter. He is reported as saying that he intends to work again, but not until he "counts his money."

